Discharge or dismissal of constable recruits while under training.

317. **MR. K. KRISHNAN NAYAR** (*Pattanamtitta*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of constables discharged or dismissed while under recruit training in the Reserve on charges of criminal conviction or of any other defect of character prior to their enlistment, during the last five years;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, who is responsible for enlisting such men?

(*c*) the action taken against the officer or officers, if any, responsible for their enlistment;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that a constable so enlisted is now in the lock-up of the Tuckalai Police Station on a charge of house-breaking and theft;

(*e*) if so, who certified to his character; and

(*f*) the action taken against the officer responsible for his enlistment?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) 609 constables were entertained during the last 5 years, and two were discharged for the grounds shown.

(*b*) The Commissioner of Police on the recommendation of his subordinates.

(*c*) In one instance an Inspector was officially reprimanded. In the other the Inspector, an acting officer, was not considered sufficiently culpable to merit punishment.

(*d*) No. A constable so enlisted is now in the lock-up on a charge under Section 394 of the *Travancore Penal Code* (voluntarily causing hurt while committing or attempting to commit robbery), and as the case is still before the Court it cannot be said whether he is guilty or not guilty.

(*e*) The local Inspector.

(*f*) No action has, as yet, been taken against the Inspector. He reported on the man's character on the 17th Kanni 1107 and the date of commission of the alleged offence was over two months later and just prior to the formality of entertainment by the Commissioner.

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